

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

[0029] In each shoulder zone B, C, a plurality of ground engaging traction elements 26, 28, shown as block elements, are separated by lateral grooves 30. These lateral grooves 30 may intersect and join with the central zone lateral grooves 24 to form a continuous lateral groove path across the tread width TW. The shoulder block elements 26, 28 are laterally elongated block elements. Shoulder block elements 26 have a greater lateral width, extending from an axially outer edge 31 coincident with the lateral edges 12 or 14 to a location axially inwardly. Circumferentially adjacent each long shoulder block element 26 is a relatively short block element 28. The short block elements 28 have an axially outer edge 32 spaced axially inward of the lateral edges 12, 14. Both the long block element 26 and the adjacent short block element 28 extend axially inward toward the central tread zone A, and the respective axially inner ends of both block elements are preferably axially aligned, though not necessarily similar in shape.